മോർട്ടഗേജു ബാങ്കിൽനിന്നും കടം കിട്ടണമെങ്കിൽ ആ വസ്തുവിന്റെ സകല ചിലവും കഴിച്ചു എന്തു പാട്ടം ബാക്കി കിട്ടുമോ അതിന്റെ 15 ഇരട്ടി സംഖ്യയാണ് അവർ വില കാണുന്നതു്. നിയമസഭയിൽ വെച്ചു വസ്തുവിനു കാണുന്ന വിലയുടെ 75 ശതമാനം സംഖ്യ കൊടുക്കുന്നതാണെന്നു ഗവൺമെണ്ടു സമ്മതിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിലും 40 ശതമാനം എന്നു സഹകാര്യമായി തീർച്ചപ്പെടുത്തിയിരിക്കുന്നതായും കേൾക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. എന്നു തന്നെയല്ല ഏതെങ്കിലും നിത്യവരായ്ക കഴിച്ചു ഇതു അടയ്ക്കുവാൻ വേറെ വല്ല വരായ്കകളുമുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതും കൂടി ക്രമേണ കഷ്ടമായി പറ്റുമാലോചിച്ചു മാത്രമേ ടി സംഖ്യ കൊടുക്കുകയും ഉള്ളൂവത്രെ. ഇതു പ്രത്യേകിച്ചു കർഷകരേയും മറ്റു ആളുകളേയും ഒരുപോലെ ബാധിക്കുന്ന ഒരു വിഷയമായതുകൊണ്ടു് എന്റെ നിർദ്ദേശമനുസരിച്ചു് എന്തെങ്കിലും ചെയ്യാൽകൊള്ളാമെന്നാണു ഞാൻ ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനോടു് അവശ്യപ്പെടുന്നതു്.

Deputy President.— The Hon'ble Member may come to the point. As there are so many resolutions to be disposed of I limit the time to 20 minutes allowed by the Standing Orders.

മി: കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ.— ഇതു പ്രത്യേകിച്ചു എല്ലാ ആളുകളേയും ആകെ ബാധിക്കുന്ന ഒരു വിഷയമായതുകൊണ്ടു എന്തെങ്കിലും ചെയ്യാൽ കൊള്ളാമെന്നാണു് ഞാൻ അവശ്യപ്പെടുന്നതു്. ഞാൻ ഇതു ഗവൺമെണ്ടിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരിക മാത്രമെ ഇപ്പോൾ ചെയ്യുന്നുള്ളൂ. ഞാൻ ഇതു പ്രസ്സു ചെയ്യുവാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ലാ. മറ്റൊരവസരത്തിൽ ഞാൻ ഒരിക്കൽക്കൂടി ഇതു കൊണ്ടുവന്നുകൊള്ളാമെന്നു വിചാരിച്ചു ഈ നിയമസഭയുടെ അനുമതിയോടുകൂടി ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയം പിൻവലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

41. All Aided Primary Schools to be taken over by Government.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthasan.— *"This Council recommends to the Government that all aided Primary Schools be taken over by the Government."*

Sir, There is particular necessity for moving this resolution today coming as it does after a motion for the introduction of compulsory primary eduction in the State. One method of introducing compulsion and one step in the line of compulsory primary education is to have the whole agency of primary education under Government. From the Administra-

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

tion Report of the Government we find that very nearly 500 primary schools are aided by Government and about 175 schools are under direct Government management. The object I have in view in tabling this resolution is to see that all aided dchools are taken over by the Government. That there is a semand for Sirkar Schools and that Sirkar Schools are better managed, has been accepted by the Government as is contained in various reports prepared by the department and by committees appointed by the Government. Then the only question is of costs in taking over the management of all the aided schools. Figures have been given by the Government showing what exactly will be the cost of running a sirkar primary school with 4 classes and also the cost of running a similar institution through aided agency. The difference is after all not large. The Government now pay at the rate of 14 as. in the rupee of the teacher's pay. There is therefore only a difference of 2 as. in the rupee that is paid to the aided agency in addition to what they pay in the shape of grants. There will also be perhaps the cost of having a peon for each school. That after all will not be much. Even if the Government were to take over all the primary schools and run them all by the department directly there will not be much of additional expenditure. But I am not advocating such a course. I would only request that the Government may be pleased to lay down a definite policy of taking over a certain number of schools every year which will finally lead to all the primary schools in the State being under their control and management. This seems to have been a subject of discussion by the Advisory Committee on Education and that body seems to have recommended the taking over of a few primary schools even this year. I understand that there are various applications pending before the Government from Managers prepared to give up their buildings with equipments free of cost if only the Government will step in and run the schools. I will therefore request the Government to accept all these pending requests to begin with. A definite policy which will ultimately lead to having all the primary schools under Sirkar management is the object which I have in view in placing before this House this resolution. I commend the resolution to the acceptance of the House.

Mr. T. K. Nayar.—I second it.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni.—On a point of information, Sir, may I know what will be the amount that will be required for all the aided primary schools to be taken over by Government?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

* **Rao Sahib I. N. Menon.**—It will be a little under 2 lakhs.

Mr. President, Sir, this is a question which has been the subject matter of discussion in this House more than once before, and as such neither the question nor the lines of discussion can be anything new to the Hon'ble Members of this House. I do not wish to contribute to a lone discussion on the first principles as to whether it is desirable that elementary education as a primary service of the State should or should not be in the hands of the State. I do not wish also to discuss the vexed question whether primary schools are better managed by the State or by private agency. I am concerned, Sir, this evening with a very limited sphere as to how it is practicable to take over the entire body of primary schools not of course in one instalment, but I take it, by degrees. The Hon'ble Member for Vadakkancheri referred to the attitude of the Advisory Committee of this House on Education and said that it has been decided to take over a few elementary schools even this year. The Advisory Committee did not discuss this general question as to how far it should be the policy of the Government to take over primary education as one of their primary duties. It was confronted with a body of petitions, not all from elementary schools, and they were called upon to discuss each petition on its own merits and to decide how far the circumstances of each case, educationally and financially, necessitated their taking over by the Government. It is true, Sir, that they recommended and Government have provisionally accepted that a certain number of schools which have served very useful purposes and which had unfortunately due to the economic depression and other causes fallen on evil days, might be rescued from utter ruin by timely assistance lent by the Government. This decision by the committee and its acceptance provisionally by the Government did not involve a pronouncement on the general question how far it is desirable or necessary that the primary education should be considered as the prime duty of the Government. It is a large question. It is a very vexed question and at any rate the solution is likely to entail considerable expenditure even if you undertake it in small instalments. I may say, Sir, that whatever satisfaction it may convey to the Hon'ble Member for Wadakkancheri, Government will not hesitate to come to the rescue of any elementary school which stands in need of assistance. That certainly is part of the general policy of the Government. But how far with so

* Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

many proposals for reform it may be a measure of practical wisdom to launch on such a comprehensive policy is a different matter. I think I am not evading the issue when I say that Government will come forward and if found necessary be willing to lend every assistance that is necessary in the case of elementary schools. Of course, the Hon'ble Member himself admitted that it is not his intention that this policy should be adopted enblock, that all the elementary schools, 370 and odd, should be immediately taken over by the Government. The only point on which he made a definite statement is whether it is or whether it is not the policy of the Government to take over gradually if necessary the entire body of elementary schools. This was a point which was raised in the processes of controversy yesterday by the Honourable Member for Pazhayannur also. Sir, with the data at my disposal and with the finance at the disposal of the Government I request the Hon'ble Member not to constrain me to give a very definite statement of policy and I request him that for the time being he will content himself with this statement that the Government will at all times be quite ready to come to the rescue of elementary schools and whenever they want assistance from the Government the Government will not be found wanting either in sympathy or in funds.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—On a point of information, I should like to know further whether they will be pleased to take over the management of all primary schools of which the management are prepared to hand over the building and furniture free of cost.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon.—As I pointed out, in a quite large number of cases of primary schools from which I got offer of free surrender, I found that those buildings and equipments were more a liability than an asset. If we take them over we had immediately to put our hands to reconstruction. If the Hon'ble Member asks me whether the Government are prepared to accept all the schools if they are freely surrendered, I think it will be very inexpedient to force the Government to make a statement of definite policy on this matter at the present moment. I have on behalf of the Government expressed their willingness to come to the rescue of any elementary school which, in the opinion of the Advisory Committee of this House, need such special assistance and I think the Hon'ble Member himself has had sufficient reason to believe that this is not a mere empty attempt but practically the first instalment of what you can

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

expect. You may no doubt say that this is something hideous in itself. But I assure you, Sir, that it leads to better things.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—With such strong assurance on behalf of the Government I do not think there is any necessity to press the resolution to a division. I beg leave of the House to withdraw the resolution.

Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

42. Repair of a Public Tank in Viyyur Village.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—*"This Council recommends to the Government that they may be pleased to rebuild or repair properly the public tank in Sy. No. 154 in the Viyyur Village, Trichur Taluk".*

Sir, before moving the resolution which relates to another tank in another village in my constituency I should like to know whether the Hon'ble Member for Public Health and Panchayats was able to obtain a letter from the Panchayat President of that place also declaring their decision not to have this tank. Then I need not move this resolution.

Dr. E. S. R. Menon.—I regret I have not been able to get a letter.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—I wish you better luck next time.

Sir, this relates to having a public tank in Viyyur near Trichur. I do not think that any explanation is necessary. I hope the Panchayat Department will have no difficulty to find funds for this work.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—I second it.

Dr. E. S. R. Menon.—This tank was once repaired in 1107 with a provision of Rs. 250 and all that has been possible has been done and we have got a very good supply of water. Further improvements such as deepening, etc., are also necessary and these things will be attended to if funds permit.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. രാമൻമേനോൻ.— സർ, നന്നാക്കാമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞതുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ ഇതു പിൻവലിക്കുന്നു.

Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly